

HOUSE BILL 686

M2

0lr2567

By: **Delegates Wood, Bohanan, and O'Donnell**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2010

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **St. Mary's County – Wild Waterfowl Hunting**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain distances a person must be from shore when
4 hunting wild waterfowl by certain methods in certain waters of St. Mary's
5 County; and generally relating to hunting wild waterfowl in the waters of St.
6 Mary's County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Natural Resources
9 Section 10–604(d), 10–605(c), and 10–606(d)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Natural Resources**

15 10–604.

16 (d) (1) **[A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS**
17 **SUBSECTION, A** person hunting wild waterfowl while standing in water on the
18 natural bottom shall be at least 800 yards from shore including shore emerging at
19 mean low water except in the waters of the Potomac River, in the waters of the
20 Susquehanna Flats, in the waters of Harford **[and]**, Baltimore, **AND ST. MARY'S**
21 counties, or while hunting at a licensed stationary blind or blind site.

22 (2) A person hunting wild waterfowl while standing in water on the
23 natural bottom shall be at least 400 yards from shore, including shore emerging at
24 mean low water, in the following areas:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) The waters of the Susquehanna Flats;
- 2 (ii) The tidal waters of the Potomac River that the Department
3 by regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection (a) of this section; and
- 4 (iii) The waters of Harford [and], Baltimore, AND ST. MARY'S
5 counties that the Department by regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection
6 (a) of this section.

7 **(3) WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN**
8 **ST. MARY'S COUNTY, A PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL WHILE STANDING**
9 **IN WATER ON THE NATURAL BOTTOM SHALL BE AT LEAST 800 YARDS FROM**
10 **SHORE, INCLUDING SHORE EMERGING AT MEAN LOW WATER.**

11 10-605.

12 (c) (1) **[A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS**
13 **SUBSECTION, A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is drifting or being**
14 **sculled shall be at least 800 yards from shore including shore emerging at mean low**
15 **water except in the waters of the Potomac River, in the waters of the Susquehanna**
16 **Flats, in the waters of Harford [and], Baltimore, AND ST. MARY'S counties, in**
17 **Conococheague Creek, and in the Monocacy River.**

18 (2) A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is drifting or
19 being sculled shall be at least 400 yards from shore, including shore emerging at mean
20 low water, in the following areas:

- 21 (i) The waters of the Susquehanna Flats;
- 22 (ii) The tidal waters of the Potomac River that the Department
23 by regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection (a)(4) of this section; and
- 24 (iii) The waters of Harford [and], Baltimore, AND ST. MARY'S
25 counties that the Department by regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection
26 (a)(4) of this section.

27 **(3) WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN**
28 **ST. MARY'S COUNTY, A PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT**
29 **THAT IS DRIFTING OR BEING SCULLED SHALL BE AT LEAST 800 YARDS FROM**
30 **SHORE, INCLUDING SHORE EMERGING AT MEAN LOW WATER.**

31 10-606.

32 (d) (1) **[A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS**
33 **SUBSECTION, A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is anchored shall be**
34 **at least 800 yards from shore including shore emerging at mean low water except in**

1 the waters of the Potomac River, in the waters of the Susquehanna Flats, in the
2 waters of Harford [and], Baltimore, AND ST. MARY'S counties, or unless anchored at
3 a licensed offshore stationary blind or blind site.

4 (2) A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is anchored shall
5 be at least 400 yards from shore, including shore emerging at mean low water, in the
6 following areas:

7 (i) The waters of the Susquehanna Flats;

8 (ii) The tidal waters of the Potomac River that the Department
9 by regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection (a)(4) of this section; and

10 (iii) The waters of Harford [and], Baltimore, AND ST. MARY'S
11 counties that the Department by regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection
12 (a)(4) of this section.

13 **(3) WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN**
14 **ST. MARY'S COUNTY, A PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT**
15 **THAT IS ANCHORED SHALL BE AT LEAST 800 YARDS FROM SHORE, INCLUDING**
16 **SHORE EMERGING AT MEAN LOW WATER.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2010.